

REMARKS

This amendment is the requisite submission of the Request for Continued Prosecution filed concurrently herewith. The prosecution on the merits is closed by operation of the Ex-parte Quayle type Office Action mailed May 18, 2001. The formal matters set forth in said Office Action have been addressed in the Response filed July 18, 2001 by the filing of the Official Letters Patent and the Supplemental Reissue Declaration. Thus, the Response filed July 18, 2001 is fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action.

On March 13, 2002, a telephone conference was held between the undersigned and the Examiner. The undersigned informed the Examiner that the present RCE was going to be filed. The Examiner indicated that she would withhold issuing a Notice of Allowance in response to the Response filed July 18, 2002 in favor of consideration of the RCE and the present amendment.

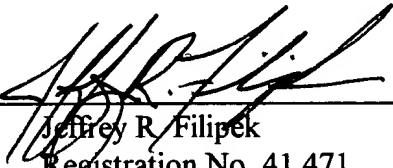
By this amendment, all of the pending claims have been canceled in favor of new claims 29-38. Support for new claims 29-32 can be found from column 59, line 49 to column 60, line 61, and from column 61, line 63 to column 62, line 32, and also in Figs. 174-176, and 179. Support for new claims 33-38 can be found in column 61, lines 19-62, and also in Fig. 178.

In view of the above-amendments, reconsideration and further examination are requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to resolve any issues and thereby expedite allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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